

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 PM-04 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /029 W

----- 093595

R 231928Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8842

INFO SECDEF

CNO

CINCLANT

USCOMSOLANT

USDAO CARACAS

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 0454

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, TD, JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE NAVAL VISIT TO INCLUDE JOINT EXERCISES

REF: PORT OF SPAIN 0451 (231508Z FEB 76) (NOTAL)

1. COMMANDER OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO COAST GUARD
INFORMS ME THAT JAPANESE SELF DEFENSE FORCE NAVAL
TRAINING SHIP WILL VISIT TRINIDAD MID-AUGUST AND
CONDUCT TRAINING EXERCISES WITH T&T COAST GUARD.

2. JAPANESE NAVY SHIP WILL BE ENROUTE BACK TO JAPAN
FOLLOWING PARTICIPATION IN NEW YORK INTERNATIONAL NAVAL
REVIEW AND WILL TRANSIT PANAMA CANAL WESTWARD.

3. COMMENT: THIS WILL BE FIRST JAPANESE WARSHIP TO
VISIT TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO SINCE PRIOR TO WORLD WAR II.
JOINT EXERCISES WILL COME SHORTLY AFTER T&T COAST
GUARD CARRIES OUT EXERCISES AT BEGINNING OF AUGUST
WITH U.S. UNITAS XVII FLEET HERE. COAST GUARD
COMMANDER IS EMPHASIZING TRAINING AND READINESS
ESPECIALLY AT THIS TIME, NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF FORTH-
COMING OPERATIONS/EXERCISES WITH FOREIGN NAVAL UNITUON#
BUT BECAUSE 1976 IS TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO ELECTION YEAR
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WHEN TENSIONS COULD EMERGE WHICH WOULD PLACE PREMIUM

ON READINESS OF ALL MILITARY ELEMENTS. (N.B. T&T
COAST GUARD DOUBLES AS NAVAL FORCE AND WAS SIGNIFICANT
ELEMENT IN QUELLING 1970 ARMY MUTINY.)
RICH

NOTE BY OC/T: #AS RECEIVED.

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